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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Jacques DEGELAEN et al.

Serial No. 09/276,923 : Group Art Unit 1645

Filed March 26, 1999 : Examiner R. Zeman

#11/C  
J. W. KROHN  
7/6/01

PROCESS FOR DETERMINING ANTIBIOTICS  
CONTAINING A B-LACTAM RING IN A BIOLOGICAL FLUID

AMENDMENT

TO CANCEL ART DISTINCTION IN THE  
PCT EPO THIS FEE IS DEPOSITED  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Responsive to the Official Action dated March 27, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

*Cancel without prejudice claims 1-15 and substitute in their stead the following new claims:*

*Sub F*  
16. A process for detecting an antibiotic or antibiotics containing a  $\beta$ -lactam ring in a biological fluid, comprising the steps of:

(a) placing a determined volume of the biological fluid in contact with an amount of recognition agent to form a mixture, and incubating the mixture under conditions which allow for the formation of a complex between an antibiotic or antibiotics, which may be present in the biological fluid, and the recognition agent,

(b) placing the mixture obtained in step (a) in contact with at least one reference antibiotic which has been immobilized on a solid support, under conditions which allow the